

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) In a radio communication system having a mobile node operable to communicate with a network part of a communication network, the network part ~~at least~~ operable to route a call, originated at the mobile node, to ~~at least~~ a first service center, the first service center capable of being called from telephone stations and mobile nodes that are within a predetermined geographic area, by the use of a first predetermined short dialing code, the apparatus comprising: an improvement of apparatus for facilitating call placement by a user of the mobile node of a call to the first service center, said apparatus comprising:

an identifier code request generator embodied at the mobile node, said identifier code request generator selectably operable to generate a request for communication to the network part, the request generated by said identifier code generator for requesting ~~at least~~ a first, short dialing network-part identifier code, which ~~that~~ identifies, ~~at to~~ the network part, ~~the at least~~ the first service center; and

an indexer embodied at the mobile node, said indexer for indexing ~~at least a~~ the first short dialing mobile-node identifier code that identifies, at the mobile node, the ~~at least the~~ first service center, together with a corresponding ~~at least~~ first network-part identifier code returned to the mobile node responsive to the request generated by said identifier code request generator.

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a detector embodied at the mobile node, said detector for detecting a response to the request generated by said identifier code request generator, and wherein said indexer is coupled to said detector to receive indications of the ~~at least the~~ first network-part identifier code contained in the response.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mobile node performs a registration procedure pursuant to registration of the mobile node with the network part, and wherein the request generated by said identifier code request generator is generated automatically subsequent to the registration procedure.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mobile node further comprises a user input actuator actuatable by the user of the mobile node, ~~wherein~~ said apparatus further ~~comprises~~ comprising a transposer, coupled to the user input actuator and to said indexer, said transposer operable responsive to actuation of the user input actuator with values of a mobile-node identifier of the ~~at least the~~ first mobile-node identifier to transpose the values into a corresponding network-part identifier of the at least the first network-part identifier.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radio communication system comprises a GSM (~~General~~ Global System for Mobile communications) cellular communication system permitting communication of USSD (Unstructured Supplementary Service Data) – formatted data and wherein the request generated by said identifier code request generator comprises a USSD-formatted message.

6. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least the first network-part identifier code further has a mnemonic associated therewith, the mnemonic representable in a first language, and wherein said identifier code request generator further requests the mnemonic associated with the at least the first network-part identifier code in a selected one of the first and at least a second languages language, respectively.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mobile node further comprises a user display device and wherein indicia associated with the at least the first network-part identifier code returned to the mobile node responsive to the request generated by said identifier code request generator is selectably displayed upon the user display device.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least the first mobile-node identifier code that identifies, at the mobile node, the at least the first service center comprises a first set of a first number of mobile-node identifier codes, wherein the at least the first network-part identifier ~~identifier~~ code that is returned to the mobile node comprises a second set of a second number of network-part identifier codes, the second number greater than the first number.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said indexer further comprises a storage element, the storage element for storing values representative of the mobile-node identifier codes of the first set together with corresponding values of the network-part identifier codes indexed together therewith, the storage element further for storing values representative of additional ones of the network-part identifier codes in excess of the first number.

10. (Currently amended) In the radio communication system of claim 1, ~~a further improvement of network an~~ apparatus for facilitating placement of a call ~~the call placement~~ by the user of ~~a the~~ mobile node within said geographic area dialing a first predetermined short dialing code, ~~of the call to the first service center,~~ said apparatus comprising:

a retriever, ~~operable~~ operably responsive to detection at the communication network of ~~the a~~ request generated by said identifier code generator, said retriever for retrieving the at least the first network-part identifier code at the network part for return to the mobile node.

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a data base ~~element~~ at which values representative of the at least the first network-part identifier code are stored, and wherein said retriever retrieves the ~~at least the~~ first network-part identifier code at the ~~network~~ network part by accessing the values stored at said data base element.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein a mnemonic is further associated with the at least first network-part identifier code and wherein values representative of the mnemonic are further stored at said data base element.

13. (Currently amended) ~~In a~~ A method of communicating in a radio communication system having a mobile node operable to communicate with a network part of a communication network, the network part ~~at least~~ operable to route a call, originated at the mobile node, to ~~at least~~ a first service center, for a predetermined geographic area, by the mobile node transmitting to the network part, a short dialing code for the first service center, an improvement of a method for facilitating call placement by a user of the mobile node of a call to the first service center, said method comprising:

generating an identifier code request at the mobile node, the request for requesting at least a first network-part identifier code that identifies, at the network part, the ~~at least the first service center~~ for a predetermined geographic area wherein the mobile node is located; and
sending the identifier code request generated during said operation of generating to the communication network;

detecting, at the mobile node, a response to the request sent during said operation of sending, the response containing values representative of the first network-part identifier code;
and

indexing, at the mobile node, ~~at least~~ a first mobile-node identifier code that identifies, at the mobile node, the ~~at least the first service center~~ for the geographic area wherein the mobile node is located, together with a corresponding ~~at least~~ first network-part identifier code detected during said operation of detecting.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising the operations of:
entering, at the mobile node, values of a selected mobile-node identifier code of the ~~at least the first mobile-node identifier code;~~ and transposing the values into a corresponding network-part identifier code indexed together therewith.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 further comprising the operation of placing a call to the service center for the predetermined geographic area that is identified by the network-part identifier code into which the values of the selected mobile-node identifier code are transposed during said operation of transposing.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising the operation of routing the call placed during said operation of placing through the communication network to the first service center for the predetermined geographic area.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising the operation, subsequent to said operation of sending of: routing the request to an application server at which values representative of the at least the first network-part identifier code are stored; and retrieving the values stored at the application server.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the communication network comprises a plurality of network parts, wherein separate values of network-part identifier codes associated with separate ones of the network parts are stored at the application server, and wherein said operation of retrieving further comprises selecting which of the values stored at the application server are to be retrieved.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the radio communication system comprises a GSM (General Global System for Mobile communications) cellular communication system permitting communication of USSD (Unstructured Supplementary Service Data) – formatted data and wherein the request generated during said operation of generating comprises a USSD-formatted message.

20. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the mobile node further comprises a user input actuator actuatable by the user of the mobile node, and wherein said method further comprises the operation of displaying indicia associated with the at least the first network-part identifier code upon the user display device.